



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Bill No. 7095

LCO No. 4103

04103_____

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Introduced by:

REP. CAFERO, 142nd Dist.

SEN. DELUCA, 32nd Dist.

AN ACT CONCERNING TUITION WAIVERS FOR CHILDREN AND SPOUSES OF VETERANS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY ON OR AFTER SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, PROTECTIONS FOR RESIDENTS ON OR COMPLETING ACTIVE DUTY, VETERAN BURIAL SUBSIDIES AND THE MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF FUND.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 10a-77 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2007*):

4 (d) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition at any
5 of the regional community-technical colleges (1) for any dependent
6 child of a person whom the armed forces of the United States has
7 declared to be missing in action or to have been a prisoner of war
8 while serving in such armed forces after January 1, 1960, which child
9 has been accepted for admission to such institution and is a resident of
10 Connecticut at the time such child is accepted for admission to such
11 institution, (2) for any veteran having served in time of war, as defined
12 in subsection (a) of section 27-103, or who served in either a combat or

13 combat support role in the invasion of Grenada, October 25, 1983, to
14 December 15, 1983, the invasion of Panama, December 20, 1989, to
15 January 31, 1990, or the peace-keeping mission in Lebanon, September
16 29, 1982, to March 30, 1984, who has been accepted for admission to
17 such institution and is domiciled in this state at the time such veteran
18 is accepted for admission to such institution, (3) for any resident of
19 Connecticut sixty-two years of age or older, provided, at the end of the
20 regular registration period, there are enrolled in the course a sufficient
21 number of students other than those persons eligible for waivers
22 pursuant to this subdivision to offer the course in which such person
23 intends to enroll and there is space available in such course after
24 accommodating all such students, (4) for any student attending the
25 Connecticut State Police Academy who is enrolled in a law
26 enforcement program at said academy offered in coordination with a
27 regional community-technical college which accredits courses taken in
28 such program, (5) for any active member of the Connecticut Army or
29 Air National Guard who (A) has been certified by the Adjutant
30 General or such Adjutant General's designee as a member in good
31 standing of the guard, and (B) is enrolled or accepted for admission to
32 such institution on a full-time or part-time basis in an undergraduate
33 degree-granting program, (6) for any dependent child of a (A) police
34 officer, as defined in section 7-294a, or supernumerary or auxiliary
35 police officer, (B) firefighter, as defined in section 7-323j, or member of
36 a volunteer fire company, (C) municipal employee, or (D) state
37 employee, as defined in section 5-154, killed in the line of duty, (7) for
38 any resident of the state who is a dependent child or surviving spouse
39 of a specified terrorist victim who was a resident of this state, [and] (8)
40 for any dependent child of a resident of the state who was killed in a
41 multivehicle crash at or near the intersection of Routes 44 and 10 and
42 Nod Road in Avon on July 29, 2005, and (9) for any resident of the state
43 who is a dependent child or surviving spouse of (A) a person who was
44 killed in action while performing active military duty with the armed
45 forces of the United States on or after September 11, 2001, who was a
46 resident of this state, or (B) a person who died as a result of accident or

47 illness sustained while performing active military duty with the armed
48 forces of the United States on or after September 11, 2001, who was a
49 resident of this state. If any person who receives a tuition waiver in
50 accordance with the provisions of this subsection also receives
51 educational reimbursement from an employer, such waiver shall be
52 reduced by the amount of such educational reimbursement. Veterans
53 described in subdivision (2) of this subsection and members of the
54 National Guard described in subdivision (5) of this subsection shall be
55 given the same status as students not receiving tuition waivers in
56 registering for courses at regional community-technical colleges.
57 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10a-30, as used in this
58 subsection, "domiciled in this state" includes domicile for less than one
59 year.

60 Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 10a-99 of the general statutes is
61 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
62 *1, 2007*):

63 (d) Said board shall waive the payment of tuition fees at the
64 Connecticut State University system (1) for any dependent child of a
65 person whom the armed forces of the United States has declared to be
66 missing in action or to have been a prisoner of war while serving in
67 such armed forces after January 1, 1960, which child has been accepted
68 for admission to such institution and is a resident of Connecticut at the
69 time such child is accepted for admission to such institution, (2) for
70 any veteran having served in time of war, as defined in subsection (a)
71 of section 27-103, or who served in either a combat or combat support
72 role in the invasion of Grenada, October 25, 1983, to December 15,
73 1983, the invasion of Panama, December 20, 1989, to January 31, 1990,
74 or the peace-keeping mission in Lebanon, September 29, 1982, to
75 March 30, 1984, who has been accepted for admission to such
76 institution and is domiciled in this state at the time such veteran is
77 accepted for admission to such institution, (3) for any resident of
78 Connecticut sixty-two years of age or older who has been accepted for
79 admission to such institution, provided (A) such person is enrolled in a

80 degree-granting program, or (B) at the end of the regular registration
81 period, there are enrolled in the course a sufficient number of students
82 other than those persons eligible for waivers pursuant to this
83 subdivision to offer the course in which such person intends to enroll
84 and there is space available in such course after accommodating all
85 such students, (4) for any student attending the Connecticut Police
86 Academy who is enrolled in a law enforcement program at said
87 academy offered in coordination with the university which accredits
88 courses taken in such program, (5) for any active member of the
89 Connecticut Army or Air National Guard who (A) has been certified
90 by the Adjutant General or such Adjutant General's designee as a
91 member in good standing of the guard, and (B) is enrolled or accepted
92 for admission to such institution on a full-time or part-time basis in an
93 undergraduate degree-granting program, (6) for any dependent child
94 of a (A) police officer, as defined in section 7-294a, or supernumerary
95 or auxiliary police officer, (B) firefighter, as defined in section 7-323j, or
96 member of a volunteer fire company, (C) municipal employee, or (D)
97 state employee, as defined in section 5-154, killed in the line of duty,
98 (7) for any resident of this state who is a dependent child or surviving
99 spouse of a specified terrorist victim who was a resident of the state,
100 [and] (8) for any dependent child of a resident of the state who was
101 killed in a multivehicle crash at or near the intersection of Routes 44
102 and 10 and Nod Road in Avon on July 29, 2005, and (9) for any
103 resident of this state who is a dependent child or surviving spouse of
104 (A) a person who was killed in action while performing active military
105 duty with the armed forces of the United States on or after September
106 11, 2001, who was a resident of this state, or (B) a person who died as a
107 result of accident or illness sustained while performing active military
108 duty with the armed forces of the United States on or after September
109 11, 2001, who was a resident of this state. If any person who receives a
110 tuition waiver in accordance with the provisions of this subsection also
111 receives educational reimbursement from an employer, such waiver
112 shall be reduced by the amount of such educational reimbursement.
113 Veterans described in subdivision (2) of this subsection and members

114 of the National Guard described in subdivision (5) of this subsection
115 shall be given the same status as students not receiving tuition waivers
116 in registering for courses at Connecticut state universities.
117 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10a-30, as used in this
118 subsection, "domiciled in this state" includes domicile for less than one
119 year.

120 Sec. 3. Subsection (e) of section 10a-105 of the general statutes is
121 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
122 *1, 2007*):

123 (e) Said board of trustees shall waive the payment of tuition fees at
124 The University of Connecticut (1) for any dependent child of a person
125 whom the armed forces of the United States has declared to be missing
126 in action or to have been a prisoner of war while serving in such armed
127 forces after January 1, 1960, which child has been accepted for
128 admission to The University of Connecticut and is a resident of
129 Connecticut at the time such child is accepted for admission to said
130 institution, (2) for any veteran having served in time of war, as defined
131 in subsection (a) of section 27-103, or who served in either a combat or
132 combat support role in the invasion of Grenada, October 25, 1983, to
133 December 15, 1983, the invasion of Panama, December 20, 1989, to
134 January 31, 1990, or the peace-keeping mission in Lebanon, September
135 29, 1982, to March 30, 1984, who has been accepted for admission to
136 said institution and is domiciled in this state at the time such veteran is
137 accepted for admission to said institution, (3) for any resident of
138 Connecticut sixty-two years of age or older who has been accepted for
139 admission to said institution, provided (A) such person is enrolled in a
140 degree-granting program, or (B) at the end of the regular registration
141 period, there are enrolled in the course a sufficient number of students
142 other than those persons eligible for waivers pursuant to this
143 subdivision to offer the course in which such person intends to enroll
144 and there is space available in such course after accommodating all
145 such students, (4) for any active member of the Connecticut Army or
146 Air National Guard who (A) has been certified by the Adjutant

147 General or such Adjutant General's designee as a member in good
148 standing of the guard, and (B) is enrolled or accepted for admission to
149 said institution on a full-time or part-time basis in an undergraduate
150 degree-granting program, (5) for any dependent child of a (A) police
151 officer, as defined in section 7-294a, or supernumerary or auxiliary
152 police officer, (B) firefighter, as defined in section 7-323j, or member of
153 a volunteer fire company, (C) municipal employee, or (D) state
154 employee, as defined in section 5-154, killed in the line of duty, (6) for
155 any resident of the state who is the dependent child or surviving
156 spouse of a specified terrorist victim who was a resident of the state,
157 [and] (7) for any dependent child of a resident of the state who was
158 killed in a multivehicle crash at or near the intersection of Routes 44
159 and 10 and Nod Road in Avon on July 29, 2005, and (8) for any
160 resident of the state who is the dependent child or surviving spouse of
161 (A) a person who was killed in action while performing active military
162 duty with the armed forces of the United States on or after September
163 11, 2001, who was a resident of this state, or (B) a person who died as a
164 result of accident or illness sustained while performing active military
165 duty with the armed forces of the United States on or after September
166 11, 2001, who was a resident of this state. If any person who receives a
167 tuition waiver in accordance with the provisions of this subsection also
168 receives educational reimbursement from an employer, such waiver
169 shall be reduced by the amount of such educational reimbursement.
170 Veterans described in subdivision (2) of this subsection and members
171 of the National Guard described in subdivision (4) of this subsection
172 shall be given the same status as students not receiving tuition waivers
173 in registering for courses at The University of Connecticut.
174 Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10a-30, as used in this
175 subsection, "domiciled in this state" includes domicile for less than one
176 year.

177 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) Notwithstanding any provision
178 of the general statutes or special act, no action for the foreclosure of a
179 mortgage of residential real property shall be commenced against a
180 mortgagor who is a resident of Connecticut (1) while the mortgagor is

181 on active duty outside of the United States with the armed forces of the
182 United States, or (2) during the six months following the date of such
183 mortgagor's completion of active duty, honorable discharge or return
184 to the United States, whichever occurs first.

185 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) Notwithstanding any provision
186 of the general statutes or special act:

187 (1) No creditor shall provide adverse credit information to a credit
188 rating agency regarding any consumer who is a resident of
189 Connecticut (A) while the consumer is on active duty outside of the
190 United States with the armed forces of the United States, or (B) during
191 the six months following the date of such consumer's completion of
192 active duty, honorable discharge or return to the United States,
193 whichever occurs first;

194 (2) No credit rating agency shall disclose adverse credit information
195 from a credit report of a consumer who is a resident of Connecticut
196 without the written consent of the consumer (A) while the consumer is
197 on active duty outside of the United States with the armed forces of the
198 United States, or (B) during the six months following the date of such
199 consumer's completion of active duty, honorable discharge or return to
200 the United States, whichever occurs first.

201 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) Notwithstanding any provision
202 of the general statutes or special act, no professional license or
203 certification shall expire or be revoked, suspended or otherwise limited
204 (1) during the license or certificate holder's period of active duty
205 outside of the United States, or (2) for six months following the date of
206 such license or certificate holder's completion of active duty, honorable
207 discharge or return to the United States, whichever occurs first.

208 Sec. 7. Section 27-118 of the general statutes is repealed and the
209 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

210 When any veteran dies, not having sufficient estate to pay the

211 necessary expenses of his last sickness and burial, as determined by the
212 commissioner after consultation with the probate court for the district
213 in which the veteran resided, the state shall pay the sum of [one
214 hundred fifty] one thousand eight hundred dollars toward such
215 funeral expenses, and the burial shall be in some cemetery or plot not
216 used exclusively for the burial of the pauper dead, and the same
217 amount shall be paid if the body is cremated, but no amount shall be
218 paid for the expenses for burial or cremation unless claim therefor is
219 made within one year from the date of death; provided, in cases of
220 death occurring abroad, such claim may be made within one year after
221 the remains of such veteran have been interred in this country. No
222 provision of this section shall prevent the payment of the sum above
223 named for the burial of any person, otherwise entitled to the same, on
224 account of such burial being made outside the limits of this state. Upon
225 satisfactory proof by the person who has paid or provided for the
226 funeral or burial expense to the commissioner of the identity of the
227 deceased, the time and place of his death and burial and the approval
228 thereof by the commissioner, said sum of [one hundred fifty] one
229 thousand eight hundred dollars shall be paid by the Comptroller to the
230 person who has paid the funeral or burial expense or, upon
231 assignment by such person, to the funeral director who has provided
232 the funeral. Whenever the Comptroller has lawfully paid any sum
233 toward the expenses of the burial of any deceased veteran and it
234 afterwards appears that the deceased left any estate, the Comptroller
235 may present a claim in behalf of the state against the estate of such
236 deceased veteran for the sum so paid, and the claim shall be a
237 preferred claim against such estate and shall be paid to the Treasurer
238 of the state. The commissioner, upon the advice of the Attorney
239 General, may make application for administration upon the estate of
240 any such deceased veteran if no other person authorized by law makes
241 such application within sixty days after such payment has been made
242 by the Comptroller.

243 Sec. 8. Subsection (b) of section 27-100a of the general statutes is
244 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*

245 *passage*):

246 (b) There is established [, within the General Fund,] a separate,
 247 nonlapsing restricted account to be known as the "Military Family
 248 Relief Fund". The account shall contain (1) any amounts appropriated
 249 or otherwise made available by the state for the purposes of this
 250 section, (2) any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account,
 251 and (3) gifts, grants, donations or bequests made for the purposes of
 252 this section. Investment earnings credited to the assets of the fund shall
 253 become part of the assets of the fund. Any balance remaining in the
 254 account at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward in the
 255 account for the fiscal year next succeeding. The State Treasurer shall
 256 administer the fund. All moneys deposited in the account shall be used
 257 by the Military Department for the purposes of this section. The
 258 Military Department may deduct and retain from the moneys in the
 259 account an amount equal to the costs incurred by the department in
 260 administering the provisions of this section, except that said amount
 261 shall not exceed two per cent of the moneys deposited in the account in
 262 any fiscal year.

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|---|---------------------|-------------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>July 1, 2007</i> | 10a-77(d) |
| Sec. 2 | <i>July 1, 2007</i> | 10a-99(d) |
| Sec. 3 | <i>July 1, 2007</i> | 10a-105(e) |
| Sec. 4 | <i>July 1, 2007</i> | New section |
| Sec. 5 | <i>July 1, 2007</i> | New section |
| Sec. 6 | <i>July 1, 2007</i> | New section |
| Sec. 7 | <i>July 1, 2007</i> | 27-118 |
| Sec. 8 | <i>from passage</i> | 27-100a(b) |

Statement of Purpose:

To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]